

PROCUREMENT OFFICE

Division of Finance

Community, Municipal Services/Education

1 Franklin Street, Suite 345, Hampton, VA 23669-3570

Phone: (757) 727-2200 Fax: (757) 727-2207

August 11, 2003

Re: Request for Proposal 311776/B

Gentlemen/Ladies:

The Director of Finance or his designated representative, on behalf of the **City of Hampton**, will accept written responses in the Procurement Office, 1 Franklin Street, Suite 345, Hampton, Virginia 23669-3570, until **3:00 p.m. sharp**, local time, **Monday, August 25, 2003**, at which time they will be opened and read aloud for the following:

Newspaper Clipping Service per attached specifications.

Legal requirements mandate that responses to this solicitation be submitted sealed. Therefore FAX responses shall not be accepted.

Any previous submittals, offers price given either orally or written, can not be accepted as a response to this formal solicitation. To insure fair and equal consideration of your response, if you wish to compete, please reply to this request.

Response must be submitted with two (2) originals of all materials.

NOTE: All questions regarding this solicitation shall be in writing using the pre-bid question form and must be in the Procurement Office by no later than 4:00 p.m. August 18, 2003. Copies of all questions and their answers will be distributed to those on the plan holder's list for this proposal. Questions may be faxed to (757) 727-2207; however, it shall be the responsibility of the sender to verify receipt of all transmissions. City of Hampton shall not be responsible for missed transmissions.

All forms relating to this solicitation are attached.

While cost is important it will not be the only consideration in the contractor selection process. Equally important will be the contractors past experience and past performance with similar projects. Evaluation shall be in accordance with the State of Virginia Public Procurement Act and the Code of the City of Hampton Virginia.

Public announcement of the decision to award this contract shall be issued in written form distributed to all responsive participants via facsimile transmission, using offeror's

number provided on the formal response form. Public records shall be available for inspection from the date of the public announcement.

It is the policy of the City of Hampton Virginia to facilitate the establishment, preservation, and strengthening of small businesses and businesses owned by women and minorities and to encourage their participation in the cities procurement activities. Toward that end, the City of Hampton, Virginia encourages these firms to compete and encourages non-minority firms to provide for the participation of small businesses and businesses owned by women and minorities through partnerships joint ventures, sub-contracts, and other contractual opportunities.

In accordance with the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193 it is the policy of the City of Hampton, Virginia not to discriminate against faith-based organizations.

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows: (i) The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex national origin, age, disability, or other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting for the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause. (ii) The contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, will state that such contractor is an equal opportunity employer. (iii) Notices, advertisements and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting the requirements of this section. (iv) The contractor will include the provisions of i, ii, and iii in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000.00, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor that the contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the forgoing clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000.00, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

A withdrawal of bid due to error shall be in accordance with Section 2.2-4330 of the Code of Virginia.

The City of Hampton reserve(s) the right to negotiate with the lowest responsible vendor in the event that price exceeds available funds. Such negotiation shall be in compliance with Sec. 2-337(e) Code of Hampton, Virginia.

The City of Hampton reserves the right to reject any and all responses, to make awards in whole or in part, and to waive any informalities in submittals.

Very truly yours,

FOR THE CITY OF HAMPTON, VA.

By

Betty Pringle, Buyer